

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: Chair Jeff Essmann, on February 8, 2017 at 8:00 AM, in Room 152
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Jeff Essmann, Chair (R)
Rep. Kelly Flynn, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Kim Abbott (D)
Rep. Becky Beard (R)
Rep. Zach Brown (D)
Rep. Dave Fern (D)
Rep. Wylie Galt (R)
Rep. Jim Hamilton (D)
Rep. Adam Hertz (R)
Rep. George G. Kipp III (D)
Rep. Steve Lavin (R)
Rep. James O'Hara (R)
Rep. Alan Redfield (R)
Rep. Tom Welch (R)
Rep. Kerry White (R)

Members Excused:

Rep. Tom Jacobson, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Mary Ann Dunwell (D)
Rep. Ron Ehli (R)
Rep. Greg Hertz (R)
Rep. Bridget Smith (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Margot Miltenberger, Committee Secretary
Megan Moore, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 343, 2/2/2017; HB 359, 2/2/2017; SB 85, 2/2/2017

00:01:14 Rep. Jacobson and Rep. Dunwell joined the meeting

HEARING ON SB 85

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:28 Sen. J.P. Pomnichowski (D), SD 33, opened the hearing on SB 85, Submitting a 6-mill levy for support of the Montana University System to voters.

Proponents:

00:04:52 Clayton Christian, Commissioner of Higher Education
00:05:31 Bridger Mahlum, Montana Chamber of Commerce (MCC)
00:06:12 Abbigail Belcher, Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM)
00:06:53 Andy Bixler, Montana Associated Students (MAS)
00:07:44 Dillon Ecord, Associated Students of Montana State University (ASMSU)
00:08:01 Bob Mokwa, Montana State University (MSU)
00:08:56 Katy Westoff, Montana Public Interest Research Group (MontPIRG)
00:09:17 Eric Burke, MEA-MFT
00:09:45 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)
00:09:52 Rep. B. Smith joined the meeting
00:10:00 Bob Story, Montana Taxpayers Association (Montax)
00:10:30 Steve Turkiewicz, Montana Bankers Association
00:10:54 Tim Burton, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MLCT)

Opponents: None

Informational Witnesses: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:11:40 Sen. Pomnichowski

HEARING ON HB 359

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:13:33 Rep. Tom Burnett (R), HD 67, opened the hearing on HB 359, Limit tax increment financing revenue to local mills.

Proponents:

00:20:28 Jim Wangerin, Self
00:20:53 Kevin Nelson, Self

EXHIBIT(tah28a01)

Opponents:

00:28:41 Ken Fichtler, Governor's Office of Economic Development
00:32:02 Bob Gilbert, City of Colstrip
00:32:51 Robin O'Day, Farran Realty Partners
00:35:28 Jeremy Keene, WGM Group, Inc.
00:39:42 Aaron Rudio, D. A. Davidson & Company
00:41:28 Dan Semmens, Self

00:49:26 Brett Doney, Great Falls Development Authority
[EXHIBIT\(tah28a02\)](#)

00:56:05 Julie Foster, Ravalli County Economic Development Authority
[EXHIBIT\(tah28a03\)](#)

01:00:39 Doug Russell, Kalispell
01:05:38 Taylor Oldroyd, Montana Association of Realtors
01:06:13 Mayor Bob Kelly, Great Falls
01:09:23 Melissa Lewis, Shelby
01:11:01 Chris Naumann, Downtown Bozeman Partnership, Downtown Tax Increment
Finance District
01:13:27 Jeff Krauss, Self
01:17:05 Jennifer James, American Institute of Architects, Montana Society of Engineers,
American Society of Civil Engineers
01:17:45 David Fine, City of Bozeman Economic Development Department
01:19:30 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)
01:21:34 Tim Burton, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MLCT)
01:25:29 Steve Turkiewicz, Montana Bankers Association
01:25:43 Bridger Mahlum, Montana Chamber of Commerce
01:26:30 Jason Rittal, Montana Economic Development Association, Montana
Infrastructure Coalition
01:27:03 Ellen Buchanan, Redevelopment Housing and Economic Development of
Missoula
01:29:52 John MacDonald, City of Missoula, Missoula Organization of Realtors
[EXHIBIT\(tah28a04\)](#)

01:30:30 Daniel Brooks, Billings Chamber of Commerce
[EXHIBIT\(tah28a05\)](#)

01:31:08 Jeff Barber, Montana Association of Planners
01:31:26 Tim Goodridge, East Billings Renewal District

Informational Witnesses:

01:33:03 Ed Caplis, Department of Revenue (DOR)_

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:33:31 Chair Essmann
01:34:32 Mayor Bob Kelly, Great Falls
01:34:50 Rep. Beard
01:35:04 Mayor Bob Kelly, Great Falls
01:35:29 Rep. A. Hertz
01:38:53 Ellen Buchanan, Redevelopment Housing and Economic Development of
Missoula
01:40:28 Rep. Fern
01:41:37 Ed Caplis, DOR
01:42:50 Rep. Beard
01:43:35 Dan Semmens, Self
01:47:19 Rep. Z. Brown
01:49:32 Rep. Burnett

01:50:18 Rep. Fern
01:51:29 Melissa Lewis, Shelby
01:53:12 Rep. Jacobson
01:54:46 Rep. Burnett
01:55:09 Chair Essmann
01:58:58 Jeremy Keene, WGM Group Inc.

Closing by Sponsor:

01:59:44 Rep. Burnett

02:02:37 Recessed

02:19:51 Reconvened

HEARING ON HB 343**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

02:20:13 Rep. Daniel Zolnikov (R), HD 45, opened the hearing on HB 343, Require Dept. of Revenue to amend rule for active duty tax exemption.

[EXHIBIT\(tah28a06\)](#)

Proponents:

02:27:10 Jim Wangerin, Self

[EXHIBIT\(tah28a07\)](#)

Opponents:

02:36:29 Gene Walborn, Department of Revenue (DOR)

Informational Witnesses:

02:41:40 Major Mike Talia, Montana National Guard

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:42:20 Rep. Redfield
02:42:36 Gene Walborn, DOR
02:43:12 Major Mike Talia, Montana National Guard
02:43:27 Rep. Fern
02:44:13 Gene Walborn, DOR
02:44:38 Rep. Abbott
02:44:54 Gene Walborn, DOR
02:47:05 Chair Essmann
02:52:28 Jim Wangerin, Self

Closing by Sponsor:

02:53:10 Rep. Zolnikov

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 02:58:20

Margot Miltenberger, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([tah28aad.pdf](#))